

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the drawing sheets for Figures 8 and 9 with the enclosed replacement sheets.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 3, 2008. Claims 31 to 42 are in the application, of which Claim 31 is independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 43 and 44 were withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to a requirement for restriction which has now been made "final". In keeping with the finality of this requirement, Claims 43 and 44 have been cancelled. Cancellation is without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without prejudice to Applicant's right to re-present these claims in a further divisional application.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 31 to 42.

Three objections were lodged against the drawings. With respect to the first, a "Prior Art" legend has been inserted for Figures 8 and 9 and the replacement drawing sheets for Figures 8 and 9 submitted herewith are believed to attend to the objection.

With respect to the second objection regarding reference numeral 26, Applicant respectfully submits that reference numeral 26 is included in Figure 4B.

With respect to the third objection regarding reference numerals 4, 101, 103, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 111, 114, 115, 220, 222 and 232, the objection has been attended to by amendment to the specification. Specifically, the specification has been amended so as to insert the requested reference numerals. No new matter has been added. Withdrawal of the objections to the drawings is respectfully requested.

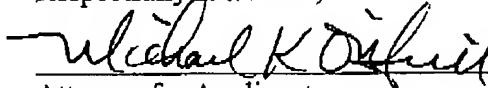
Claims 31 and 35 were objected to for various informalities. Without conceding to the correctness of the objections, Claims 31 and 25 have been amended herein as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

Turning finally to a formal matter, it is respectfully requested for the Examiner to provide an explicit indication of his consideration of U.S. Patent 5,596,438 (Sadow), cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed April 16, 2008, as well as U.S. Application No. 10/587,261 (Sekiguchi), cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed April 2, 2007. Most of the art cited in these two Information Disclosure Statements has received explicit indications of consideration. It is believed that similar explicit indications, for the two noted citations, was omitted inadvertently.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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